

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A device for positioning at least one optical component inside an endoscopic system, comprising:

a housing having an inside wall and a longitudinal axis, an optical axis of said endoscopic system extending through said housing and defining a light beam path,

at least one carrier carrying said at least one component, said carrier being pivotable about a pivot axis extending substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of said housing so that said at least one component can be pivoted into said light beam path and back out of said light beam path about said pivot axis,

said pivot axis being arranged such that a smallest distance of said inside wall of said housing from said pivot axis is smaller than a greatest distance of said pivot axis to an outer edge of said at least one component,

wherein a dimension of an interior of said housing from said longitudinal axis to said inside wall of said housing in a pivot plane of said at least one component is about 1½ to 2 times as great as a greatest dimension of said at least one component in said pivot plane.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A device for positioning at least one optical component inside an endoscopic system, comprising:

a housing having an inside wall and a longitudinal axis, an optical axis of said endoscopic system extending through said housing and defining a light beam path,

at least one carrier carrying said at least one component, said carrier being pivotable about a pivot axis extending substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of said

housing so that said at least one component can be pivoted into said light beam path and back out of said light beam path about said pivot axis,

_____ said pivot axis being arranged such that a smallest distance of said inside wall of said housing from said pivot axis is smaller than a greatest distance of said pivot axis to an outer edge of said at least one component,~~The device of claim 1,~~

_____ wherein a distance of said outer edge of said at least one component from said pivot axis is in the range of between about a half to about three quarters of a dimension of an interior of said housing from the longitudinal axis to said inside wall of said housing.

4. (currently amended) The device of claim 31, wherein said distance of said outer edge of said at least one component from said pivot axis is preferably about two thirds of said dimension of said interior of said housing from said longitudinal axis to said inside wall of said housing.
5. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein at least one further component is arranged in said housing, and wherein said at least one further component is assigned a further carrier separate from said carrier for said at least one optical component.
6. (original) The device of claim 5, wherein said carrier and said at least one further carrier are arranged at axially about a same position relative to said longitudinal axis.
7. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein at least one further component is arranged in said housing, and wherein said at least one further component is assigned a further carrier separate from said carrier for said at least one optical component, said at least one further carrier is pivotable about a further pivot axis which is offset by ap-

proximately 90° with respect to said pivot axis of said carrier for said at least one component in circumferential direction of said housing.

8. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein at least one further component is arranged in said housing, and wherein said at least one further component is assigned a further carrier separate from said carrier for said at least one optical component, and wherein said at least one further carrier is arranged at an axially different position than said carrier for said at least one component relative to said longitudinal axis.

9. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein, in order to pivot said at least one component, an actuating mechanism is provided which can be operated from outside said housing and which has at least one driver element cooperating with at least one driven element arranged on said carrier, wherein a distance of said at least one driver element from said pivot axis is small compared to a distance of a mid point of said at least one component from said pivot axis.

10. (original) The device of claim 9, wherein said carrier is designed as a two-sided lever in relation to said pivot axis, said at least one driver element being arranged on that side of said pivot axis directed away from said at least one component.

11. (currently amended) A device for positioning at least one optical component inside an endoscopic system, comprising:

_____ a housing having an inside wall and a longitudinal axis, an optical axis of said endoscopic system extending through said housing and defining a light beam path,

_____ at least one carrier carrying said at least one component, said carrier being pivotable about a pivot axis extending substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of said

housing so that said at least one component can be pivoted into said light beam path and back out of said light beam path about said pivot axis,

_____ said pivot axis being arranged such that a smallest distance of said inside wall of said housing from said pivot axis is smaller than a greatest distance of said pivot axis to an outer edge of said at least one component,~~The device of claim 1,~~

_____ wherein at least one further component is arranged in said housing, and wherein said at least one further component is assigned a further carrier separate from said carrier for said at least one optical component, and wherein an actuating mechanism having an adjustment member is provided in such a way that, when said adjustment member is moved from a starting position, in which both components are pivoted out from said light beam path, to a first operating position, one of said at least one component and said at least one further component is pivoted into said light beam path, and, when said adjustment member is moved from said starting position to a second operating position opposite to said first operating position, the other of said at least one component and said at least one further component is pivoted into said light beam path.

12. (original) The device of claim 11, wherein, in said first and second operating positions, the one of said components respectively pivoted-out is held securely in the pivoted-out position.

13. (original) The device of claim 12, wherein said adjustment member can be locked in said starting position and at least one of said first and second operating positions.

14. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein an actuating mechanism having an adjustment member is provided for said at least one optical component, wherein said adjustment member is adjustable in circumferential direction of said housing.

15. (currently amended) A device for positioning at least one optical component inside an endoscopic system, comprising:

a housing having an inside wall and a longitudinal axis, an optical axis of said endoscopic system extending through said housing and defining a light beam path,

at least one carrier carrying said at least one component, said carrier being pivotable about a pivot axis extending substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of said housing so that said at least one component can be pivoted into said light beam path and back out of said light beam path about said pivot axis,

said pivot axis being arranged such that a smallest distance of said inside wall of said housing from said pivot axis is smaller than a greatest distance of said pivot axis to an outer edge of said at least one component.~~The device of claim 1,~~

~~_____~~-wherein an actuating mechanism is provided for said at least one optical component, said actuating mechanism having at least one driver element and at least one driven element, said at least one driver element and said at least one driven element are designed as magnetically acting elements and interact magnetically through said housing.

16. (new) The device of claim 3, wherein said distance of said outer edge of said at least one component from said pivot axis is preferably about two thirds of said dimension of said interior of said housing from said longitudinal axis to said inside wall of said housing.

17. (new) The device of claim 3, wherein at least one further component is arranged in said housing, and wherein said at least one further component is assigned a further carrier separate from said carrier for said at least one optical component.

18. (new) The device of claim 17, wherein said carrier and said at least one further carrier are arranged at axially about a same position relative to said longitudinal axis.

19. (new) The device of claim 3, wherein at least one further component is arranged in said housing, and wherein said at least one further component is assigned a further carrier separate from said carrier for said at least one optical component, said at least one further carrier is pivotable about a further pivot axis which is offset by approximately 90° with respect to said pivot axis of said carrier for said at least one component in circumferential direction of said housing.

20. (new) The device of claim 3, wherein at least one further component is arranged in said housing, and wherein said at least one further component is assigned a further carrier separate from said carrier for said at least one optical component, and wherein said at least one further carrier is arranged at an axially different position than said carrier for said at least one component relative to said longitudinal axis.

21. (new) The device of claim 3, wherein, in order to pivot said at least one component, an actuating mechanism is provided which can be operated from outside said housing and which has at least one driver element cooperating with at least one driven element arranged on said carrier, wherein a distance of said at least one driver element from said pivot axis is small compared to a distance of a mid point of said at least one component from said pivot axis.

22. (new) The device of claim 21, wherein said carrier is designed as a two-sided lever in relation to said pivot axis, said at least one driver element being arranged on that side of said pivot axis directed away from said at least one component.

23. (new) The device of claim 3, wherein an actuating mechanism having an adjustment member is provided for said at least one optical component, wherein said adjustment member is adjustable in circumferential direction of said housing.